



COD Processing Update

May 12, 2006

Direct Loan

COD News

COD System Maintenance Planned For Sunday, May 14, 2006 (05/10/06)

The COD System will undergo routine maintenance on Sunday, May 14, 2006 from 2:00 A.M. until 8:00 A.M. (ET). During this period, users will not be able to submit or retrieve data via the COD Web site. Additionally, batches submitted by schools will be held and not processed until after the COD System comes back up. COD apologizes for any inconvenience this outage may cause. If you have any questions, contact the COD School Relations Center.

Extended Direct Loan Electronic MPN Web Site Outage For Sunday, May 14, 2006 (05/10/06)

As a reminder, the Direct Loan Electronic Master Promissory Note (MPN) Web site is unavailable every Sunday morning from 5:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. (ET) while routine maintenance is performed. During this period, individuals are not able to complete new MPNs electronically or retrieve existing MPNs that were completed electronically.

Due to the need for additional maintenance on Sunday, May 14, 2006, the Direct Loan Electronic MPN Web site will be unavailable for an extended period of time from 2:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M. (ET). Individuals attempting to access the Web site after the cutoff time will see a Web site maintenance message and will not be able to start the process or retrieve an existing MPN.

COD apologizes for any inconvenience this outage may cause. If you have any questions, contact the COD School Relations Center.

NEW!

Unlocking And Resetting COD Web Site Passwords (05/12/06)

COD would like to remind COD Web site users that Security Administrators (COD Web site User Level 5) are able to unlock and reset passwords for the users (User Level 1-4) they established at their school or organization. However, if the Security Administrator needs his or her password unlocked or reset, the Security Administrator must contact the COD School Relations Center.

In order to unlock users, a Security Administrator should log in to the COD Web site, www.cod.ed.gov, and complete the following steps:

Step 1: From the Welcome to Common Origination & Disbursement Web Site screen, click on the User tab on the blue bar at the top of the screen. The User Search screen displays.

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www.cod.ed.gov



Common Origination and Disbursement

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- Step 2: Enter the search criteria for the user and click on the submit button at the bottom of the User Search screen. The Search Results screen displays and lists users that match the search criteria.
- Step 3: On the Search Results screen, select the name of the user that needs to be unlocked. The User Information screen displays.
- Step 4: Click on the Modify button at the bottom of the User Information screen. The Update User Profile screen displays.
- Step 5: The Locked Out box on the Update User Profile screen contains a checkmark. Click on the Locked Out box to remove the checkmark.
- Step 6: If a new temporary password is not needed, skip this item and go to Step 7. If a new temporary password is needed, enter the new temporary password in the New Password field. Then re-enter the new password in the Re-enter New Password field to confirm. The user will need to change this password to one of his or her choosing.
- Step 7: Click on the submit button at the bottom of the Update User Profile screen. The Update Your Profile screen displays.
- Step 8: On the Update Your Profile screen, click on the Submit button to confirm the updates made to the user's profile.

This information is also posted on the COD Web site in a document entitled "Unlocking And Resetting COD Web Site Passwords." To access the document *before* you log in to the Web site, click on the "Click here if you are looking for more information on Common Origination and Disbursement" Link. To access the document *after* you log in to the Web site, click on the "Today's Updates" link at the bottom of the page.

Schools can refer to the Electronic Announcement on the IFAP Web site, <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/0201UpdatedCODWebsiteSchools.html>, for information regarding COD Web site access. Third party servicers can refer to the Electronic Announcement on the IFAP Web site at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/UpdatedCODWebsiteThirdPartyServ.html>.

HERA Guidance Available On IFAP Web Site (05/08/06)

Federal Student Aid has been evaluating and finalizing the operational changes that must be made to its student aid processes and procedures to implement the provisions of the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (the HERA), Pub. L. 109-171. Federal Student Aid appreciates the financial aid community's patience and understanding over the past few months as it completed this work.

Communications related to the HERA will be posted on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site (www.ifap.ed.gov). These communications include policy and operational guidance that impacts all student aid programs, systems, and processes. To assist users in easily locating HERA-related communications, they are available under the "Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (HERA) Information" link on the home page of the IFAP Web site. (The link is at the top of the "On-Line References" section.)

Federal Student Aid will post guidance related to the Central Processing System (CPS), Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System, and EDExpress Suite, as Electronic



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Announcements. The summary for these Electronic Announcements will begin with "HERA Operational Implementation Guidance (CPS, COD System, EDEExpress Suite)" so that they can be distinguished from other types of guidance. As explained above, the Electronic Announcements will be available under the "Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (HERA) Information" link on the home page of the IFAP Web site.

Currently, there is policy and operational guidance related to the HERA posted on the IFAP Web site. Additional guidance will be posted as it becomes available. Please plan to check the IFAP Web site on a regular basis.

Reports and Data Requests



This section contains important notices regarding reports and/or data requests. While we encourage you to review this section, note that some schools may not be impacted by the information presented below.

- Direct Loan Rebuild File—

Schools in need of this file should contact the COD School Relations Center. (10/03/05)



COD Processing Update

Pell Grants

COD News

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Federal Student Aid will post guidance related to the Central Processing System (CPS), Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System, and EDEXpress Suite, as Electronic Announcements. The summary for these Electronic Announcements will begin with "HERA Operational Implementation Guidance (CPS, COD System, EDEXpress Suite)" so that they can be distinguished from other types of guidance. As explained above, the Electronic Announcements will be available under the "Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 (HERA) Information" link on the home page of the IFAP Web site.

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Reports And Data Requests

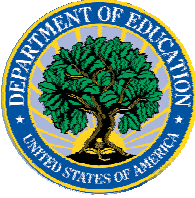
NOTICES

This section contains important notices regarding reports and/or data requests. While we encourage you to review this section, note that some schools may not be impacted by the information presented below.

- Pell Data Requests—

COD may return COD Edit 609

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Common Origination and Disbursement

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Electronic Statement of Account
Multiple Reporting Record
Pell POP Report
Reconciliation Report
Verification Status Report
Year-To-Date Record

(Requested/Matching Data Not Found) when a user submits a data request via batch or the COD Web site during a 4 ½ hour period each Monday through Friday night beginning at 10:00 P.M. (ET) and ending at 2:30 A.M. (ET) the next morning. This edit may be returned because the COD System is running its overnight processing/posting during the specified period, and, as a result, some data may not be available for the report. Users can avoid this potential situation by submitting data requests outside the specified period. COD apologizes for any inconvenience this may cause users. (04/19/06)

- Pell Year-to-Date (YTD) Records—

The YTD Record can be used to assist a school with its year-end and ongoing reconciliation processes. Schools also use the YTD Record for the purpose of rebuilding a complete student record or Pell Grant database.

- For rebuilds for the 2005-2006 Award Year, the school can submit the data request via the COD Web site or batch.
- For rebuilds for the 2004-2005 and earlier award years, the school must contact the COD School Relations Center by e-mail to CODSupport@acs-inc.com. The school should include "Pell YTD" in the subject line. If a school is unable to e-mail its request, it can contact the COD School Relations Center by phone. [10/03/05 (Updated 10/27/05)]